



## **The ABCs of DDD**

An Overview of the Arizona  
Division of Developmental Disabilities

## **Our Mission**

To support the choices of individuals with disabilities and their families by promoting and providing community-based, flexible, quality, consumer-driven services and supports.

## **Vision**

Individuals with developmental disabilities are valued members of their communities and are involved and participating members based on their own choices.

## **Arizona**

- The developmental disabilities recognized by Arizona's Division of Developmental Disabilities include:
  - Cognitive disability
  - Cerebral palsy
  - Epilepsy
  - Autism

## Eligibility for the Division

- An individual must:
  - Apply voluntarily;
  - Be a resident of Arizona;
  - Have a documented developmental disability; and
- The developmental disability must have occurred prior to the age of 18.

## Eligibility Continued...

- In addition to one of the four developmental disabilities, an individual:
  - Must have substantial functional limitations in at least 3 of 7 life domains; and
  - Must agree to cooperate with Arizona Long Term Care (AHCCCS) requirements.

## Life Domains

- Self-care
- Receptive and/or expressive language
- Learning
- Mobility
- Self-direction
- Capacity for independent living
- Economic self-sufficiency

## Who We Serve...

- The Division serves all ages, birth through the end of a person's life.
- Eligibility criteria is slightly different for children under 6. A child must:
  - Have a diagnosis of cerebral palsy, epilepsy, autism, or cognitive disability; or
  - Be "at risk" of a developmental delay; or
  - Demonstrate a 'significant developmental delay.'

## Who Determines Eligibility?

- Each Division District Office has staff designated to complete the intake and eligibility determination process with interested persons.
- Interested individuals and/or their families may also access eligibility and intake information and/or submit a referral at the Division's website at:  
[www.azdes.gov/ddd](http://www.azdes.gov/ddd)

## Once Eligible, Forever Eligible?

- Eligibility is formally re-determined at age 6 and prior to the individual's 18<sup>th</sup> birthday.
- An individual may be assessed as no longer eligible should their abilities reach the level that Division services and supports are no longer needed.

## Categories of Eligibility

- State-Only (DD-Only)
- Medicaid Acute Care (Targeted)
- Arizona Long Term Care Services (ALTCs)

## Types of Eligibility Continued...

- DD-Only
  - Eligible for DDD support coordination; community resource referrals
- Targeted
  - Eligible for acute health care services through AHCCCS; DDD support coordination
- ALTCs
  - Eligible for all of the above; DDD support coordination; home- and community-based services

## Support Coordination

- Once a person is found DDD eligible, they will be contacted by a Support Coordinator (case manager).
- Support Coordinators serve as the primary point of contact with the Division.
- Support Coordinators assist with connecting individuals with resources.

## Support Coordination Continued...

- The Support Coordinator will meet with the individual/family at regular intervals, based on eligibility requirements and individual preference.
- The Support Coordinator has the responsibility for developing an individualized plan for every Division consumer.

## Service Planning

- The Division uses an individualized planning approach. Plan types include:
  - Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) for early intervention services (birth to age 3)
  - Individual Support Plan (ISP)
  - Person-Centered Plan (PCP)

## Division Services

- All services are dependant on eligibility, documented assessed need and availability of funding.
- Services can not be provided by the Division until the individual's plan (IFSP, ISP, PCP) documents the need and desired outcomes.

## HCBS Services

- The Division offers a wide range of Home- and Community-Based Services (HCBS).
- 89% of the individuals enrolled with the Division live in their own or family home.

## Respite

- Provides a certified and trained person to supervise and care for an individual to give the caregivers a break.
- May be provided in the person's home or their provider's home.
- As warranted, may be provided by a nurse.

## Attendant Care

- A certified and trained assistant to help a person attain or maintain safe and sanitary living conditions and/or maintain personal cleanliness and completion of activities of daily living.

## Habilitation

- Intended to teach a person life skills to increase their independence. This service can be provided in a person's home or their community.

## Day Treatment and Training

- Typically facility-based training, supervision, and therapeutic activities designed to promote skill development in independent living, self-care, communication, and social relationships.

## Employment Services & Supports

- Employment services & supports are available for:
  - DDD-Only eligible individuals when funding is available
  - ALTCs-eligible individuals after completion of the RSA/VR Program (if eligible)

## Types of Supports & Services:

- Individual Supported Employment
- Group Supported Employment
- Center-Based Employment
- Employment Support Aide
- Transportation for Employment

## Individual Supported Employment

- Age 18 or older
- Competitive community-based employment
- Paid by the employer
- Job coaching supports
- Job search services

## Group Supported Employment

- Age 18 or older
- Community integrated work setting
- Supervised by provider staff and paid by the hour
- Sub-minimum or minimum wage dependent upon individual productivity
- Typical settings include enclaves or mobile work crews

## Center-Based Employment

- Age 21 or older
- Services facility-based, non-integrated setting
- Supervised and paid by agency provider based on productivity
- Paid work and vocational skill building
- Typical participation is 6-7 hours per day

## Employment Support Aid

- 1-to-1 on-the-job support
- Personal care assistance
- Behavioral support
- Long term follow-along support

## Additional Services

- Other services the Division offers include:
  - Home health care
  - Residential living arrangements
  - Assistive technology
  - Occupational, physical, and speech
  - Home nursing
  - Home modifications

# Questions?



## For More Information



[www.azdes.gov/ddd](http://www.azdes.gov/ddd)

Linda Tasco  
Director of Program Services  
[LJTasco@azdes.gov](mailto:LJTasco@azdes.gov)